

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Douglas T. Grider Docket No: TI-31118  
Serial No: To be Assigned Examiner: TBD  
Conf. No: To be Assigned Art Unit: TBD  
Filed: 09/28/2001  
For: METHOD FOR TRANSISTOR GATE DIELECTRIC LAYER WITH UNIFORM NITROGEN  
CONCENTRATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

"EXPRESS MAIL" Mailing Label No. EL645459005US.  
I hereby certify that the above correspondence is being  
deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient  
postage for "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee"  
service under 37 CFR 1.10 and is addressed to: Assistant  
Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on  
9-28-01.

  
Ann Trent

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above identified application, please amend the  
specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:

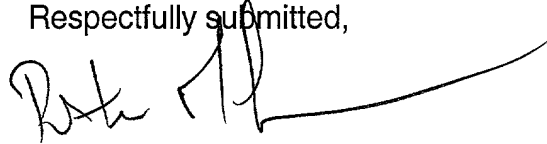
--This application claims priority under 35 USC § 119(e)(1) of provisional  
application Serial No. 60/241,673 filed October 19, 2000.--

Should the Examiner have any comments or suggestions concerning this  
application, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned in  
order to expeditiously resolve any outstanding issues.

09967044-093604  
T03660-44029660

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any fees in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Texas Instruments Incorporated, Account No. 20-0668.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter K. McLarty", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Peter K. McLarty  
Agent for Applicant  
Reg. No. 44,923

Texas Instruments Incorporated  
Mail Station 3999  
P.O. Box 655474  
Dallas, TX 75265  
(972) 917-4258

FOR "60" 44029660